

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 HONG K 09170 150657Z
ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-01 SS-15 NSC-06 /032 W
-----038504 150659Z /11

P 150445Z JUL 78
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1600
INFO USICA
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

UNCLAS HONG KONG 9170

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OREP
SUBJ: CODEL WOLFF PRESS CONFERENCE

1. THREE SIGNIFICANT POINTS EMERGED DURING QUESTION PERIOD
FOLLOWING LESTER WOLFF'S PREPARED STATEMENT AT HONG KONG PRESS
CONFERENCE JULY 15:

A) WOLFF STATED THAT A RANKING PRC OFFICIAL, WHOM HE WOULD NOT
IDENTIFY, HAD RAISED THE POSSIBILITY OF PRC-KMT COOPERATION IN
A FUTURE SETTLEMENT OF TAIWAN ISSUE. WOLFF SAID HE HAD SEEN
NO INDICATION THAT NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES
ARE IN FACT TAKING PLACE, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THE RANKING
OFFICIAL HAD CITED PAST HISTORY OF COOPERATION WITH KMT AND
HAD SAID THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THIS COULD NOT BE REPEATED.

B) WHEN ASKED IF THE QUESTION OF US ARMS SALES TO TAIWAN HAD
BEEN DISCUSSED DURING VISIT, WOLFF REPLIED QUOTE THE STATEMENT
WAS MADE (BY PRC OFFICIALS) THAT IF US PLANES WERE SOLD
TO TAIWAN IT WOULD INTERFERE WITH A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT (BETWEEN
THE PRC AND TAIWAN) AND WOULD RETARD NORMALIZATION END QUOTE.
THIRD PARTY PLANE SALES WERE NOT MENTIONED DURING THE DISCUSSIONS,
ACCORDING TO WOLFF.

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PAGE 02 HONG K 09170 150657Z

C) WOLFF STATED PRC OFFICIALS INDICATED THEY DID NOT FORESEE
ACCOMODATION BETWEEN TAIWAN AND THE SOVIET UNION BECAUSE THE
PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN TAIPEI IS STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST.

2. FULL TEXT OF WOLFF'S PREPARED STATEMENT TRANSMITTED TO
DEPARTMENT AND ICA VIA USINFO. STUBBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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